

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): KATO, et al.
Serial No.: Reissue application of U.S. Patent No. 6,263,588
Filed: February 5, 2002
For: VACUUM PROCESSING APPARATUS AND
OPERATING METHOD THEREFOR

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR 1.97 AND 1.98

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

February 5, 2002

Sir:

Pursuant to Applicants' duty of disclosure, enclosed please find copies of documents to be considered by the Examiner during examination of the above-identified Reissue application. Also enclosed are Forms, substantially equivalent to Form PTO-1449, listing the enclosed documents.

Please note that the enclosed documents were provided in connection with prosecution of patent applications and/or patents in foreign countries. The enclosed documents also include decisions of various foreign patent offices in connection with the corresponding foreign applications and/or patents.

The enclosed documents are being submitted concurrently with the filing of the above-identified Reissue application. Clearly, requirements of 37 CFR

1.97 and 1.98 are satisfied, by present submission of the enclosed documents.

To the extent that the enclosed documents are not in English, it is respectfully submitted that requirements of 37 CFR 1.97(a)(3) are satisfied by English-language abstracts, or partial or full English translations, of enclosed documents, as indicated on the enclosed Forms listing the documents.

In view of all of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all applicable requirements of 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98 have been satisfied, in connection with each of the documents listed on the enclosed Forms. Accordingly, consideration of the listed documents, upon examination of the above-identified Reissue application, is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case No. 520.30414R50) and please credit any excess fees to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP



William I. Solomon
Registration No. 28,565

Tel.: 703-312-6600
WIS/slk
Enclosures

Form PTO-1449 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTY. DKT. NO. 520.30414R50	SERIAL NO.
	APPLICANT KATO, et al.		
	FILING DATE 2-5-02	GROUP	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date
	AA	4,836,905	6-6-89	Davis, et al.		
	AB	4,923,584	5-8-90	Bramhall, Jr. et al.		
	AC	4,643,629	2-17-87	Takahashi, et al.		
	AD	5,186,718	2-16-93	Tapman, et al.		
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS *

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation /Abstract	
						Yes	No
	AM	60-246635	12-6-85	Japan		ABS	
	AN	1-298180	12-1-89	Japan		ABS	
	AO	2-94647	4-5-90	Japan		ABS	
	AP	64-500072	1-12-89	Japan			X
	AQ	2-61064	3-1-90	Japan			X
	AR	1-310553	12-14-89	Japan		ABS	
	AS	1-251734	10-6-89	Japan		ABS	
	AT	63-153270	6-25-88	Japan		FTR	

OTHER DOCUMENTS * (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	AU	Terminological Dictionary of Semiconductor Equipment, Edited by Semiconductor Equipment Association of Japan, Published by Nikkan Kogyo Shinbun sha Inc. (1987) p. 183 (PTR)
	AV	Semicon News, April 1987 (pp. 38-43) (PTR)
	AW	VLSI Processing Equipment handbook, Ph. D. Kazuo Maeda (6-90), pp. 158 (PTR)
	AX	Latest trend of process automation (Realize, Inc.) (1986), pp. 202 and 203
	AY	Semicon News, Semicon/East '84, 12-1984, vol. 13., p. 199
	AZ	"Semiconductor World", 1990/9, Published by Press Journal, Inc., pp. 136-7 (FTR)
Examiner		Date Considered

* PTR (partial translation) - FTR (full translation) - ABS (abstract)

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Form PTO-1449	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTY. DKT. NO. 520.30414R50	SERIAL NO.
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS *

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation /Abstract	
						Yes	No
	AM	62-44571	2-26-87	Japan		ABS	
	AN	62-50463	3-5-87	Japan		ABS	
	AO	2-106037	4-18-90	Japan		ABS	
	AP	57-29577	2-17-82	Japan		ABS	
	AQ	62-207866	9-12-87	Japan		FTR	
	AR	59-094435	5-31-84	Japan		ABS	
	AS	63-57734	4-18-88	Japan			X
	AT	63-133521	6-6-88	Japan		FTR/ABS	

OTHER DOCUMENTS * (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	AU	Electronic Parts and Materials, 1989, vol. 28, no. 3, pp. 22-29
	AV	Solid State Technology, 10/90, pp. 35-41
	AW	Solid State Technology, 12/90, pp. 37-47
	AX	Semiconductor World, pp. 106-111, 9/90
	AY	Semiconductor World, pp. 122-125, 9/90
	AZ	Semiconductor World, pp. pp. 110-113, 10/89
Examiner		Date Considered

* PTR (partial translation) - FTR (full translation) - ABS (abstract)

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Form PTO-1449	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTY. DKT. NO. 520.30414R50	SERIAL NO.
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Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation /Abstract	
						Yes	No
	AM	62-216315	9-22-87	Japan		ABS	
	AN	60-52574	3-25-85	Japan		ABS	
	AO	4-82841	7-20-92	Japan			X
	AP	58-93321	6-3-83	Japan		ABS	
	AQ	3-19252	1-28-91	Japan		ABS	
	AR	2-52449	2-22-90	Japan		PTR/ABS	
	AS	58-95636	6-29-83	Japan			X
	AT	1-316957	12-21-89	Japan		ABS	

OTHER DOCUMENTS * (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	AU	Semiconductor World, pp. 52-53, 8/91
	AV	European Search Report, 1/92, re 91307625.3
	AW	European Search Report, 4/98, re 97111628.0
	AX	European Search Report, 3/99, re 981061625
	AY	JP application No. 3-234408, Notification of Reasons for Refusal, 1-28-97 (TR)
	AZ	JP application No. 2646905, Notification Reasons for Revocation 12-15-98 (TR)
Examiner		Date Considered

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	AN	62-132321	6-15-87	Japan		PTR/ABS	
	AO	63-131123	8-26-88	Japan		PTR	
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	AU	JP application No. 2646905, Notice of Reasons for Revocation 7-21-99 (TR)
	AV	Decision for Patent Opposition, Opposition No. 10-70995 (10-99) (TR)
	AW	JP application No. 2-225321, Notification of Reasons for Refusal 10-15-96 (TR)
	AX	JP application No. 8-335329, Interview Record (TR)
	AY	JP application No. 8-335329, Notification of Reasons for Refusal 9-30-97 (TR)
	AZ	JP application No. 8-335329, Notification of Reasons for Refusal 4-7-98 (TR)
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	AN	2-224242	9-6-90	Japan		PTR	
	AO	58-108641	6-28-83	Japan		ABS	
	AP	1-120811	5-12-89	Japan		ABS	
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	AU	JP patent No. 2816139, Notice of Reasons for Revocation 11-21-99 (TR)
	AV	Official Decision on Opposition to Grant of Patent 1999-71584 1-12-01 (TR)
	AW	JP application No. 9-329873, Notification of Reasons for Refusal 7-14-98 (TR)
	AX	JP application No. 9-329873, Notification of Reasons for Refusal 11-10-98 (TR)
	AY	JP patent No. 2942527, Notice of Reasons for Revocation 6-27-00 (TR)
	AZ	Decision on Opposition to the Grant of a Patent 2000-70844 1-12-01 (TR)
Examiner		Date Considered

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	AU	JP application No. 11-001263, Notification of Reasons for Refusal 2-2-00 (TR)
	AV	JP application No. 2000-05449, Notification of Reasons for Refusal 9-6-00 (TR)
	AW	JP application No. 2000-054450, Notification of Reasons for Refusal 9-6-00 (TR)
	AX	JP application No. 2000-054451, Notification of Reasons for Refusal 9-6-00 (TR)
	AY	JP application No. 2000-054452, Notification of Reasons for Refusal 9-6-00 (TR)
	AZ	EP91307625, Office Action 10-11-93
Examiner		Date Considered

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Form PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)	ATTY. DKT. NO. 520.30414R50	SERIAL NO.
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	AU	EP91307625, Summons to attend oral proceedings 12-9-99
	AV	EP91307625, Communication of a notice of opposition 11-19-98
	AW	EP91307625, Interlocutory decision in Opposition proceeding, 5-16-00
	AX	EP91307625, Minutes of the oral proceedings, 3-9-00
	AY	EP97111628, Office action 12-1999
	AZ	EP97111628, Office action 11-2000
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	AU	EP97111628, Office action 6-2001
	AV	EP98106162, Office action 11-2000
	AW	EP98106162, Office action 6-2001
	AX	KR application No. 14984/91, Preliminary Notice of Ground(s) for Rejection (TR)
	AY	KR application No. 184682-00-00 Notice of Decision on Opposition to the Granted Patent 10-4-2000 (TR)
	AZ	KR application No. 184682, Trial Decision 8-1-00 (TR)
Examiner		Date Considered

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Form PTO-1449	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTY. DKT. NO. 520.30414R50	SERIAL NO.
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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	AU	KR application No. 46756/98, Preliminary Notice of Ground(s) for Rejection 1-20-99 (TR)
	AV	KR application No. 212874, 12-22-00, Notice of Decision on Opposition to the Granted Patent
	AW	KR application No. 46757/98, Preliminary Notice of Ground(s) for Rejection 1-20-99 (TR)
	AX	KR application No. 212819, 12-22-00, Notice of Decision on Opposition to the Granted Patent (TR)
	AY	JP patent No. 3145359, Notice of Reasons for Revocation 12-18-01 (TR)
	AZ	JP patent No. 3145375, Notice of Reasons for Revocation 12-18-01 (TR)
Examiner		Date Considered

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Form PTO-1449	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTY. DKT. NO.	SERIAL NO.
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	AU	JP patent No. 3145375, Notice of Reasons for Revocation 12-18-01 (TR)
	AV	JP patent No. 3147230, Notice of Reasons for Revocation 12-18-01 (TR)
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: KATO, et al.
Serial No.: Reissue application of U.S. Patent No. 6,263,588
Filed: February 5, 2002
For: VACUUM PROCESSING APPARATUS AND
OPERATING METHOD THEREFOR

CLAIM FOR PRIORITY

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

February 5, 2002

Sir:

Under the provisions of 35 USC §119 and 37 CFR §1.55, Applicants hereby claim the right of priority based on Japanese Patent Application No. 2-225321, filed August 29, 1990.

The certified copy of the above-referred-to Japanese Patent Application was filed on August 29, 1991 in prior application Serial No. 07/751,951, filed August 29, 1991.

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP



William I. Solomon
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WIS/slk

1.0062618.020502

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: KATO, et al.
Serial No.: Reissue application of U.S. Patent No. 6,263,588
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For: VACUUM PROCESSING APPARATUS AND
OPERATING METHOD THEREFOR

OFFER TO SURRENDER ORIGINAL PATENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

February 5, 2002

Sir:

Applicants hereby offer to surrender the original Letters Patent of U.S. Patent No. 6,263,588. The Official Letters Patent, or a Statement that the Official letters Patent is lost or inaccessible, will be submitted in due course, prior to passing the Reissue application to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP



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Tel.: 703-312-6600
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WIS/slk

205020-12929007

Reference Index (1/4)

No.	Article
1	Japanese Laid-open P60-246635
2	Japanese Laid-open P01-298180
3	Japanese Laid-open P02-94647
4	International Laid-open P64-500072 (USP4917556)
5	Japanese Laid-open P02-61064 (USP4969790)
6	Terminological Dictionary of Semiconductor Equipment
7	Japanese Laid-open P01-310553
8	Japanese Laid-open P01-251734
9	Japanese Laid-open P63-15 ³ 2270 <i>WAS 2/5/02</i>
10	Japanese Laid-open P62-044571
11	Japanese Laid-open P62-050463
12	Semicon News('84/3)
13	Japanese Laid-open P02-106037
14	Japanese Laid-open P57-29577
15	Japanese Laid-open P62-207866
16	VLSI Process Handbook
17	Japanese Published P62-33745
18	Latest trend of process automation
19	Semicon News(84/12)
20	Japanese Laid-open U63-057734
21	Japanese Laid-open P63-133521
22	Japanese Laid-open P62-216315
23	Japanese Laid-open P60-52574 (USP4675096)
24	Japanese Laid-open U04-82841
25	Japanese Laid-open P58-93321
26	Semiconductor World (P136,137)('90/9)
27	Electronic Materials ('89/3)
28	Solid State('90/10)
29	Solid State('90/12)
30	Japanese Laid-open P03-19252

10062618.020502

Reference Index (2/4)

No.	Article
	(Prior Application) (USP5186718)
31	Japanese Laid-open P02-052449
32	Japanese Laid-open U58-95636
33	Japanese Laid-open P01-316957
34	Japanese Laid-open P02-179946
35	Japanese Laid-open P62-132321
36	Japanese Laid-open U63-131123
37	WOA 8707309 (A)
38	EPA 0381338 (A)
39	EPA 0246453(A)
40	Japanese Laid-open P02-65252
41	Japanese Laid-open P01-135015
42	USP 4836905 (X)
43	Japanese Laid-open P61-250185
44	EPA 0367423 (USP4923584)
45	USP 4643629 (A)
46	Semiconductor World (P106~P111, '90/9)
47	Semiconductor World (P122~125, '90/9)
48	Japanese Laid-open P 02-2224242
49	Japanese Laid-open U02-26229
50	Japanese Laid-open P 58-108641
51	Semiconductor World (P110~113)('89/10)
52	Semiconductor World (P52~53)('91/8)
53	EP search report ('92/1)
54	EP search report ('98/4)
55	EP search report ('99/3)
56	Japanese Laid-open P 01-120811

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United States Patent & Trademark Office
Office of Initial Patent Examination

Application papers not suitable for publication

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Mail Date 02-05-02

- ☐ Non-English Specification
- ☐ Specification contains drawing(s) on page(s) _____ or table(s) _____
- ☐ Landscape orientation of text ☐ Specification ☐ Claims ☐ Abstract
- ☐ Handwritten ☐ Specification ☐ Claims ☐ Abstract
- ☐ More than one column ☐ Specification ☐ Claims ☐ Abstract
- ☐ Improper line spacing ☐ Specification ☐ Claims ☐ Abstract
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- ☐ Abstract not on separate page(s)
- ☐ Improper paper size -- Must be either A4 (21 cm x 29.7 cm) or 8-1/2"x 11"
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- ☐ Drawing page(s) _____
- ☐ Abstract
- ☐ Claim(s)
- ☐ Drawing objection(s)
- ☐ Missing lead lines, drawing(s) _____
- ☐ Line quality is too light, drawing(s) _____
- ☐ More than 1 drawing and not numbered correctly
- ☐ Non-English text, drawing(s) _____
- ☐ Excessive text, drawing(s) _____
- ☐ Photographs capable of illustration, drawing(s) _____

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